SEVENTY-EIGHTH
ANNUAL REPORT

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE

SAN FRANCISCO
CALIFORNIA

NINETEEN HUNDRED
THIRTY-THREE

Seventy-eighth Annual Report

of the

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE

for the

Year Ending February 28, 1933

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE
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Year Ending February, 28, 1933

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Mechanics'-Mercantile Library

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Assistant Librarian.....MARY O. CARMODY
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MECHANICS' INSTITUTE

Mechanics'-Mercantile Library

Mechanics' Institute Chess and Checker Club

57 Post Street

San Francisco, California

The Library now contains nearly one hundred and twenty-two thousand volumes.
Special attention is given to the division of technology.
Over five hundred periodicals and newspapers are on file.
A chess and checker room is maintained, where smoking is permitted.
Lecture courses are held each season.
Library open daily, 9 a. m. to 10 p. m.
Sunday, 1 p. m. to 5 p. m.
Chess room, daily, 9 a. m. to 10 p. m.

TERMS OF MEMBERSHIP

Entrance Fee .....$ 1.00
Half-yearly Dues (in advance)..... 3.00
Life Membership 100.00

Non-residents may use the Library for one month on payment of fifty cents.

A member may introduce a friend (not a resident of the city), who will be allowed the use of the Library rooms for one month.

LIBRARY RULES

Members may take out four books at a time and extra books on payment of five cents each.

New fiction may be kept one week only. Other books may be kept two weeks and the time may be extended for two weeks longer by giving notice at the Library desk, or by mail or telephone GArfield 1750. A charge of two cents a day will be made on books kept over time.

Members' requests for books to be purchased will receive careful consideration.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

San Francisco, March 9, 1933.

To the Members of the Mechanics' Institute

At the annual meeting of the members of the Mechanics' Institute one year ago we did not have a President. Our President, Mr. Otto von Geldern, had passed away a few weeks before and your Board of Trustees had not filled the vacancy.

The last annual meeting was presided over by our then First Vice-President, Dr. Arthur W. Scott. Immediately after the annual meeting the Board of Trustees met in accordance with the Constitution to elect officers, and elected Dr. Scott President. About a month later Dr. Scott passed away in his 76th year. He was a native of San Francisco and from his boyhood was a member of the Institute. It was from the inspiration he received from our library and from the lectures he attended here as a boy that he was fired with the ambition to attend the State University which shaped his career as physician and outstanding educator.

I deem it appropriate to incorporate here the resolutions adopted by your Board of Trustees on his death, which were drawn up by Trustee William Penn Humphreys:

"Doctor Arthur W. Scott, surgeon, soldier and educator, the "highly respected and honored President of our Institute, "passed away in San Francisco on April 15, 1932, after a long "and distinguished career. He was born in this city during "the stirring Vigilante days of 1856. He graduated from the "University of California in 1876; from the Toland Medical "School in 1879; and served with credit and distinction as "a military surgeon during the trying campaigns against "Geronimo in 1881 and 1882. He then returned to Califor-"nia and practiced his profession until 1888, when he joined "the faculty of the Alameda High School and was elected "its Principal in 1893; and because of his outstanding char-"acter and ability, was appointed in 1904 Principal of the "Girls' High School in San Francisco, and continued in that "position until he had reached his three-score years and ten, "retiring because of age in 1926.

"He became a member of the Mechanics' Institute on

"December 20, 1882; was first elected Trustee on January "21, 1908, and served continuously in that capacity until "his death. He served the Institute as First Vice-President "from 1929 to March, 1932, and as President during the "months of March and April of this latter year. While act-"ing as President, he had the pleasure and privilege of serv-"ing as a Regent of the University of California, from which "he had graduated when a young man.

"He was a member of our Library Committee for all, "and its Chairman for most, of the many years that he "served on our Board of Trustees; and our wisely chosen "and well-balanced library is an eloquent testimonial to his "good judgment and high erudition. His character was "as upstanding as his carriage; his genial nature, his kind "and sympathetic heart, and his sagacious and far-seeing "counsel endeared him to all who knew him, and were of "the greatest assistance and inspiration, not only to the thou-"sands of our citizens who were educated under his personal "supervision and instruction, but also to our Institute and "to its members.

"Though he has gone, we shall ever remember him "fondly, as a man without fear and without reproach. Good "friend, kind friend, Hail and Farewell."

After Doctor Scott passed away your Trustees honored me by electing me to the Presidency of the Mechanics' Institute, an honor which I assure you I esteem in the highest degree.

During the past year the Institute has to some degree shared in the general depression. The membership has fallen off by 333 and the revenues from rentals in this building by vacancies and decreases in rent has fallen off to a considerable extent.

In addition to our income from rents of this building and from members' dues our main source of income is from investments in bonds.

Your Trustees in making investments have been guided first by safety and second by income. Nothing of a speculative character has been dealt in and all investments in bonds have been in state, county and municipal issues. I am happy to state that not one of the bonds we own is in default. In this connection I take pleasure in stating that the purchases of bonds that have been made for some years past was, up to his retirement from the Board, under the supervision of our former President, Mr.

Byron Mauzy, and I am glad to pay this tribute to his care and conservative judgment.

We also have $135,100.00 invested in first mortgages on San Francisco real estate, on all of which the interest is promptly paid.

The Mechanics' Institute is an unique and a fortunate institution. It has never begged assistance and it has received but very little in the way of contributions. It has made its own way and paid its own way and today, after 78 years of existence, stands with a record to be proud of.

A subscription library cannot exist on its members' dues. It is impossible for a library to provide ample space in a convenient location, keep many magazines and periodicals available and supply its members with standard and current books for six dollars a year.

Experience has shown that subscription libraries throughout the country that have not large endowments have been forced to close. The Mechanics' Institute is very fortunate in having had in the past for its Trustees men who gave so generously of their time and ability to putting it on a firm foundation. The work of those men of the past who made so much from the profits of Mechanics' Fairs and who invested so wisely in real estate has placed the Institute on a solid foundation that enables us today to serve our members so well.

I would call your attention to the figures of the Secretary's annual report. It shows that the total cost of operating the library, including rent, is $64,965.24 and the total income from the library is $22,955.68, a deficit of about $42,000.00. This deficit was met out of our returns from investments and we still have a cash surplus of about $10,000.00 for the year.

Despite the tendency of the times your Trustees have not cut down the service of the library to the members and have made no reduction in the library staff, and the interesting and well-attended lecture course has been maintained. Your Trustees have felt they should continue to make the library as efficient as possible and give the maximum service to the members.

This Institute belongs to its members and the Trustees are your servants to carry out your wishes. It is the aim of the Trustees to do so to the greatest extent possible and at the same time to look a long way ahead and build up a substantial surplus. While it is still afar off the time will come when the

growth of the library and the decreased revenue from the building by loss of rental space that will be required for many books will bring us closer to a meeting of revenue and expenditure. To prevent an annual deficit when the time comes it is necessary each year to add substantially to our surplus.

I should like to allude to the permanency and solidity of our membership and the affection so many of our members have for this remarkable institution. We have on our roll of membership still eight members who joined previous to 1880, two of them as far back as 1870. Many, many families in this city, parents and children, regard this Institute as part of their intellectual lives and they feel for it a corresponding affection. We have a devoted and conscientious Librarian and library staff, imbued with the spirit of service to our members that we have ample evidence is sincerely appreciated. Our Librarian and our Secretary entered our service as young men more than 45 years ago.

We are not unmindful, however, that our service and efficiency can always be improved and we shall always welcome any suggestions and proposals from our members for the benefit of the Institute.

I wish to commend the able business management of our Secretary, Mr. John H. Wood, and in conclusion I beg to express my sincere appreciation of the unfailing courtesy and cooperation that, as President, I have received from my fellow Trustees.

JOSEPH M. CUMMING, President.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

For the Year Ending February 28, 1933

San Francisco, March 9, 1933.

To the Board of Trustees of the Mechanics' Institute,
San Francisco.

Gentlemen:—

I have the honor to present herewith financial statement of the Mechanics' Institute for the year ending February 28, 1933:

March 1, 1932, Cash on deposit in various banks	$106,121.36
Cash in contingent funds	450.00
Total Cash	$106,571.36

RECEIPTS

Mechanics' Institute Building—rent collections from March 1, 1932, to February 28, 1933		$ 44,213.26
Interest, Ernest N. Atkins Memorial Fund		30.00
Interest, James Lick Fund		600.00
Interest, Commercial and Savings Account		2,938.29
Interest, Mortgage Receivable Accounts		7,507.50
Interest, Bonds		25,763.54
Tax Judgment		145.33
Third St. Property, Income Account		3,472.00
Library and General Administration:		
Dues	$ 19,580.25	
Entrance Fees	536.00	
Books Paid For	237.63	
Fines and Extra Books	2,570.20	
Sundry	31.60	
		22,955.68
Total Receipts		$107,625.60
Received from Investments Accounts:		
Bonds Matured	$ 21,000.00	
Paid on Mortgages Account	2,800.00	
		23,800.00
Total Cash received		$131,425.60
		$237,996.96

EXPENDITURES

Mechanics' Institute Building—operating expenses from March 1, 1932, to February 28, 1933:		
Pay Roll	$ 14,280.75	
Taxes	9,316.00	
Insurance	897.59	
Heat	754.60	
Light and Power	2,671.18	
Water	328.71	
Window Cleaning	420.00	
Supplies	342.09	
Repairs	752.45	
General Expense	560.45	
		$ 30,323.82
Library and General Administration:		
Books, Binding and Periodicals	$ 11,363.65	
Furniture and Equipment	19.00	
General Expense	2,315.12	
Insurance	937.57	
Legal Expense	250.00	
Lectures	1,105.77	
Printing and Stationery	339.98	
Salaries	29,290.88	
Supplies	370.66	
Taxes	53.46	
Monthly Bulletin	193.00	
Rent of Library Rooms	18,720.00	
Sundry	6.15	
		64,965.24
General Accounts:		
Suspense Accounts	5.00	
Accounts Payable	362.35	
		367.35
Third Street Property:		
Insurance (3 years)	610.00	
Taxes	778.00	
Expense	145.60	
		1,533.60
Total		$ 97,190.01
Investments Account:		
Bonds purchased	$ 56,145.08	
Bond Premium Account	3,371.65	
Total	$	59,516.73
Total Cash paid out		$156,706.74
Cash on hand in various banks, Feb. 28, 1933		$ 80,840.22
Cash on hand in contingent funds		450.00
Total Cash on hand		$ 81,290.22
		$237,996.96

SUMMARY

Cash on hand, March 1, 1932		$106,571.36
Total Receipts	$107,625.60	
Total Expense	97,190.01	
Excess Receipts		10,435.59
Received from Investments Accounts		23,800.00
		$140,806.95

DISTRIBUTION

Cash on hand and in various banks, Feb. 28, 1933.	$ 80,840.22	
Cash in contingent funds	450.00	
Total Cash		$ 81,290.22
Investments made from surplus		59,516.73
		$140,806.95

The net amount expended since April 18, 1906, on Books, Binding of new Books, and Periodicals has been	316,046.75
The amount paid out for construction, equipment, etc., of the Post St. Building has been	389,185.81

Insurance is carried as follows:

Books	$100,000.00
Furniture	7,500.00
Post St. Building	286,500.00

The Resources of the Mechanics' Institute are as follows:

Post St. lot covered by Mechanics' Institute Building.

N. W. corner Third and Stillman Streets, San Francisco.

First Mortgages for $135,100.00 on San Francisco Real Estate.

Bonds to the par value of $554,151.40, as follows:

$199,000.00	San Francisco, Cal., City Hall 5%.
10,400.00	San Francisco, Cal., Municipal Railway 5%.
15,000.00	San Francisco, Cal., Water 4½%.
29,000.00	San Francisco, Cal., Golden Gate Park 3½%.
5,000.00	San Francisco, Cal., Hetch Hetchy Water 5%.
21,000.00	San Francisco, Cal., Hetch Hetchy 4½%.
10,000.00	San Francisco, Cal., Hetch Hetchy 5¾%.
200.00	San Francisco, Cal., Library 3½%.
1,000.00	San Francisco, Cal., Playground 3½%.
8,000.00	San Francisco, Cal., School 4½%.
4,000.00	San Francisco, Cal., School 5%.
1,000.00	Albany, Cal., Municipal Improvement 5%.
1,357.50	Berkeley, Cal., Municipal Improvement 4½%.
5,000.00	Berkeley, Cal., School District 5%.
1,875.00	Chico, Cal., Municipal Improvement 5%.
3,000.00	Cloverdale, Cal., Municipal Improvement 5%.
20,000.00	East Bay Municipal Utilities 5%.
2,000.00	Exeter, Cal., Union High School District 5%.
2,000.00	Gilroy, Cal. School District 5%.
2,000.00	Grass Valley, Cal., High School District 6%.
2,000.00	Hanford, Cal., Municipal Improvement 5%.
4,500.00	Livermore, Cal., Municipal Improvement 5%.
1,000.00	Los Angeles Harbor Improvement 5%.
10,000.00	Marin, Cal., Municipal Water District 5%.
1,000.00	Merced, Cal., Union High School 6%.

4,393.90	Monterey, Cal., Municipal Improvement 5%.
700.00	Nevada City, Cal., Sewer 6%.
7,000.00	Oakland, Cal., School District 5%.
2,500.00	Oakland, Cal., Municipal Improvement 5½%.
500.00	Oxnard, Cal., Water 5%.
5,000.00	Petaluma, Cal., City High School 6%.
3,000.00	Pittsburg, Cal., Municipal Improvement 5%.
2,000.00	Placerville, Cal., Municipal Improvement 5%.
1,000.00	Placerville, Cal., Municipal Street Work 5%.
3,000.00	Placerville, Cal., School District 5%.
1,000.00	Richmond, Cal., School District 4½%.
5,000.00	Richmond, Cal., School District 5½%.
2,000.00	Sacramento, Cal., Filtration 5%.
7,000.00	Sacramento, Cal., New Levee 4½%.
5,000.00	Sacramento, Cal., School District 4½%.
8,000.00	Sacramento, Cal., High School District 4½%.
4,000.00	Salinas, Cal., Union High School District 5%.
1,000.00	San Luis Obispo, Cal., Municipal Improvement 5%.
15,000.00	San Luis Obispo, Cal., School District 6%.
1,000.00	San Mateo, Cal., Union High School 6%.
5,000.00	Santa Barbara, Cal., Municipal Improvement 5%.
1,125.00	Santa Barbara, Cal., School District 4½%.
1,000.00	Santa Maria, Cal., Union High School District 6%.
10,000.00	Santa Rosa, Cal., Union High School District 5%.
1,000.00	Sequoia, (San Mateo Co., Cal.), Union High School District 6%.
10,000.00	Stockton, Cal., School District 5%.
2,600.00	Visalia, Cal., Municipal Improvement 6%.
5,000.00	Washington, (Alameda Co., Cal.), Union High School District 5%.
1,000.00	Williams, Cal., Municipal Improvement 5½%.
25,000.00	Butte County, Cal., Highway 5%.
1,000.00	Contra Costa County, Cal., 5%.
15,000.00	Fresno County, Cal., 5%.
5,000.00	Merced County, Cal., 5%.
2,000.00	San Mateo County, Cal., Highway 5%.
7,000.00	Sonoma County, Cal., 5%.
10,000.00	California State Highway 5%.
5,000.00	California State University Building 4½%.
10,000.00	California State Veterans' Welfare 4½%.

Cash on hand, March 1, 1933, $81,290.22.

Books, Furniture and Equipment of the Library.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN H. WOOD, Secretary.

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

San Francisco, March 9, 1933.

To the President and Board of
Trustees, Mechanics' Institute.

Gentlemen:

I herewith submit the seventy-eighth annual report of the Library for the year ending February 28, 1933.

Membership

March 1, 1932		4499
Added—Subscribing	529	
Reinstated	10	539
		5038
Withdrawn—Life (deceased)	26	
Subscribing	846	872
Membership, February 28, 1933		4166

During the year twelve subscribing members who had paid continuously for thirty years were, according to the Constitution, granted Life Memberships.

The membership is divided as follows:

Honorary	2
Life	647
Subscribing	3517
	4166

Book Accessions

Number of volumes listed March 1, 1932		118,928
Added by purchase	3201	
Added by binding	415	
Added by gift	187	3,803
		122,731
Less lost, paid for, and discarded		1,065
Net gain		2,738
Number of volumes listed February 28, 1933		121,666

Binding

588 volumes were rebound at the bindery and 6560 were repaired at the library.

Gifts

2719 unbound items, consisting of pamphlets and serial publications, were presented to the library during the year.

Accession by Classes

	Purchased	Cost	Bound	Cost	Gifts	Total
General Works	42	$ 227.85	66	$148.00	20	128
Philosophy	81	173.71	6	12.00	6	93
Religion	21	55.03	1	2.00		22
Sociology	258	778.05	38	92.00	76	372
Philology	3	6.90				3
Science	98	367.85	78	175.10	11	187
Useful Arts	158	582.84	167	394.00	21	346
Fine Arts	129	352.57	40	98.65	2	171
Literature	202	370.21	1	2.00	5	208
Foreign Literature	10	16.15			23	33
Travel	157	406.84	10	21.00	6	173
Biography	319	937.27	1	2.00	5	325
History	148	412.33	7	14.40	9	164
Fiction and Children's Books	1575	2601.90			3	1578
	3201	$7289.50	415	$961.15	187	3803

Circulation

There were issued for home use 250,140 volumes, an average monthly circulation of 20,845 volumes.

Table of Circulation Statistics

General Works	612	Foreign Literature	622
Philosophy	5,063	Foreign Fiction	1,041
Religion	1,485	Travel	12 832
Sociology	6,592	Biography	14,954
Philology	97	History	7,990
Science	4,736	Fiction	157,268
Useful Arts	7,521	Children's Books	1,152
Fine Arts	7,992	Periodicals	5.549
Literature	14,634		250,140

Fiction	157,268	volumes,	62.87 per cent
Children's Books	1,152	"	0.46 " "
Non-fiction	91,720	"	36.67 " "

Respectfully submitted,

FRANCIS B. GRAVES, Librarian.

APPENDIX

Year Ending Feb. 28	Membership			Volumes in Library	Circulation
	Subscribing	Life and Honorary	Total		
1933	3,517	649	4,166	121,666	250,140
1932	3,835	664	4,499	118,928	254,205
1931	3,878	666	4,546	114,347	237,974
1930	3,748	677	4,425	108,697	208,552
1929	3,657	679	4,336	103,123	176,174
1928	3,789	703	4,492	98,195	165,253
1927	4,032	702	4,734	102,056	161,980
1926	4,030	690	4,723	98,696	164,347
1925	4,170	690	4,860	94,992	169,631
1924	4,356	652	5,008	91,433	172,712
1923	4,317	657	4,974	87,855	172 902
1922	4,160	646	4,806	84,056	175,502
1921	3,842	650	4,492	80,776	150,376
1920	3,408	649	4,057	77,140	128,480
1919	2,994	653	3,647	73,128	101,728
1918	3 135	590	3,725	70,055	118,159
1917	3,144	598	3,742	65,875	132,721
1916	2,982	617	3,599	63,672	127,866
1915	2,862	626	3,488	56,740	131,687
1914	2,709	632	3,341	50,776	125,650
1913	2,855	643	3,498	44,527	118,998
1912	2 660	644	3,304	39,266	110,194
1911	2,385	651	3,036	35,392	88,753
1910	1,717	645	2,362	32,186	71,741
1909	2,034	646	2,680	28,324	83,042
1908	2,120	643	2,763	24,179	.....
1907	2,726	651	3,377	17,850	.....
April 18, 1906	....	...	4,150	.....	.....

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE PUBLICATIONS

In Print

Annual Reports, 1907 to date.

List of books on architecture. August, 1913.

List of books on building and building materials. December, 1913.

List of books on electrical engineering. June, 1916.

List of books on petroleum. January, 1917.

List of books on aeronautics and military and naval engineering. January, 1918.

List of books added, 1914 to date.

Seventy-five years of history of the Mechanics' Institute, 1930.